

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7412

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 13087

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINT EG XF

SUBJ: SADAT'S SPEECH ON NASSER ANNIVERSARY, SEPTEMBER 28

SUMMARY: SADAT TOLD ASU CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND
PEOPLES ASSEMBLY SEPTEMBER 28 THAT "EXTREME
RIGHT AND EXTREME LEFT" ARE SEEKING STIR UP RANCOR
IN EGYPT BY FALSE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST GOE. SUCH
SUBVERSION IS CRIME, AGAINST NATION. TRIPOLI,
DAMASCUS AND MOSCOW ARE FANNING FLAMES KINDLED BY
HYPOCRITICAL NASSERISTS. "QADHAFI WILL NOT ESCAPE
FROM ME", SYRIA WILL NOT ESCAPE PUNISHMENT OF
HISTORY. PRAVDA ARTICLE SUPPORTING QADHAFI WAS
BITTERLY SCORED BY SADAT. SYRIA HAS LAUNCHED
MAJOR MILITARY OFFENSIVE IN LEBANON. END SUMMARY.

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1. AS IS HIS CUSTOM, SADAT SPOKE TO JOINT ASU CENTRAL

COMMITTEE/PEOPLES ASSEMBLY MEETING ON SEPT. 28, ANNIVERSARY OF NASSER'S DEATH. SPEECH EQUALLY DIVIDED BETWEEN HARD-HITTING ATTACK ON (A) DOMESTIC DISSIDENTS AND (B) TRIPOLI, DAMASCUS, AND MOSCOW, WHICH SEEK "FAN THE FLAMES OF DISSENSION" WITHIN EGYPT AND PROMOTE DISUNITY IN ARAB WORLD. KAMAL JUMBLATT ATTENDED TWO-HOUR SPEECH AND WAS HAILED BY PRESIDENT AS CHAMPION OF LEBANESE NATIONALISTS. HIGHLIGHTS:

A. NASSER. SADAT RECALLED SHOCK AND LOSS TO ARAB WORLD OF NASSER'S DEATH, BUT , PAYING HIMSELF A BACKHAND COMPLIMENT, NOTED GREATEST TRIBUTE TO NASSER WAS FACT THAT COUNTRY DID NOT DISINTEGRATE AFTER HIS DEATH; AFTER "CORRECTIVE REVOLUTION", CARAVAN CONTINUES.

B. HYPOCRITES ON RIGHT AND LEFT. SADAT LAUNCHED SHARP ATTACK ON BOTH THOSE WHO "CLAIM TO BE PROGRESSIVE", WHOM HE IDENTIFIED AS HYPOCRITICAL NASSERISTS, AND ON "EXTREME RIGHT", WHOM HE DID NOT IDENTIFY BUT WERE CLEARLY RECOGNIZABLE AS THE OLD WAFD POLITICIANS. SOME ON RIGHT, HE COMPLAINED BITTERLY, INSIST ON RETURN TO OLD PARTY SYSTEM, THOUGH LATTER WAS DISASTER. THOSE CALLING THEMSELVES SOCIALISTS, ON OTHER HAND, CONVENIENTLY IGNORE THAT EGYPT HAS "FREE PRESS", STABILITY BASED ON RULE OF LAW, CONSTITUTION, AND NO CONCENTRATION CAMPS. EVEN SO, THESE "SOCIALISTS" SEEK STIR UP RANCOR AND OLD GRUDGES, WHICH IS A "CRIME" AGAINST THE NATION. SADAT ACKNOWLEDGED SERIOUS ECONOMIC PROBLEMS BUT WARNED THEY MUST NOT BE EXPLOITED BY POLITICIANS. PICKING UP BOOKLET, PRESIDENT SAID AFTER BUS STRIKE (CAIRO 12687), PROPAGANDA LEAFLETS HAD APPEARED DEMANDING RIGHT TO STRIKE. SPEAKING MORE IN SORROW THAN IN ANGER, PRESIDENT ASKED HOW WORKERS IN EGYPT, WHO SINCE 1952 HAVE ACQUIRED BENEFITS OF LARGE PUBLIC SECTOR, PROFIT SHARING, AND SOCIAL INSURANCE, COULD STRIKE AGAINST THE REVOLUTION. ONE OF ELECTION PLATFORMS (I.E., OF THE LEFTIST GROUP), PRESIDENT ADDED, IS NOW DEMANDING RIGHT TO STRIKE. THOSE WHO DRAFTED THESE PAMPHLETS ARE "KNOWN TO US", SOME ADMIT THEY ARE MARISTS AND SHOULD THEREFORE RECALL THAT STRIKE IN RUSSIA WOULD END IN ARMY DEMOLISHING FACTORY. SECOND LEFTIST CHARGE, PRESIDENT ADDED, IS THAT PUBLIC SECTOR IS BEING LIQUIDATED. QUOTING FACTS AND FIGURES WHICH HE SAID WERE ON THE PUBLIC RECORD, PRESIDENT CALLED SUCH CHARGE "SHAMEFUL".

C. TRIPOLI, DAMASCUS, AND MOSCOW. "THOSE SEEKING DON

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NASSER'S COLORS, BELIEVING THAT NASSER'S NAME GIVES EASY ACCESS TO THE PEOPLE'S HEARTS, ARE HYPOCRITES," BUT THEY EXIST AND THEY HAVE OPENED "NASSERIST MARKETS". TRIPOLI, DAMASCUS, AND MOSCOW ARE "FANNING THE FLAMES". SPEAKING TO THE ARAB AMBASSADORS, SADAT SAID EGYPT EXPORTED ITS BITTERNESS AND FRUSTRATIONS TO ISRAEL; SYRIA , LIBYA AND USSR ARE TRYING TO REIMPORT THESE, BUT EGYPT WILL NOT AGAIN ACCEPT DEFEATISM, NO WAR-- NO PEACE, OR ANY EFFORT DESTROY ARAB UNITY.

D. QADHAFI MUST GO. SADAT RECITED ANECDOTE INTENDED TO PROVIDE VERIFIABLE EVIDENCE THAT NASSER THOUGHT QADHAFI WAS IGNORANT, STUPID, ARROGANT, AND OUT TO HUMILIATE EGYPT-- I.E. , QADHAFI CANNOT POSE AS A NASSERIST. "QADHAFI WILL NOT ESCAPE FROM ME -- I SAY IT AGAIN".

E. PRAVDA ARTICLE. LAST MARCH, SADAT HAD ANNOUNCED EGYPTIAN REACTION TO SOVIETS WOULD BE KEYED TO SOVIETS'S ATTITUDE TO EGYPT. SINCE THEN, PRAVDA ARTICLE SUPPORTING QADHAFI APPEARED. QADHAFI HAS "MURDERED THE INNOCENTS IN THE SUDAN, SENT ARMS TO IRELAND, THE PHILIPPINES AND OMAN, YET MOSCOW CONSIDERS HIM PROGRESSIVE. HE IS A COWARDLY TERRORIST. SADAT SEEMED TO IMPLY THA SOVIETS HAD OFFICIALLY INQUIRED WHY LIBYAN AMBASSADOR HAD BEEN PNGED.

F. SYRIAN WILL NOT ESCAPE PUNISHMENT OF HISTORY. SADAT SAID HE HAD RECEIVED CABLES CONCERNIN NEW SYRIAN ATTACK IN MOUNT LEBANON. (SEPTEL). HE MAMENTED THAT ONLY ISRAEL IS WINNING IN LEBANON AND THAT SYRIA IS SEEKING TO LEAD THE ARAB WORLD (IMPLYING IT SIS EXPLOITING LEBANESE AND PALESTINIANS TO DO SO). "I DECLARE" FULL CONFIDENCE IN SARKIS ABILITY HANDLE SITUATION; EGYPT IS READY TO HELP IN ANY WAY IT CAN. LEBANESE "NATIONALISTS" ARE ASKING FOR SIMPLE JUSTICE.

2. COMMENT: SADAT SPOKE WITH STRENGTH AND CONVICTION BUT NOT, EVEN WHEN SPEAKING OF QADHAFI, SHRILLY. ATTACK ON "EXTREME LEFT AND EXTREME RIGHT", COMING AS IT DOES JUST ONE MONTH BEFORE ELECTIONS, WAS CLEARLY INTENDED AS CAUTIOARY ADVICE, ESPECIALLY TO NASSERITSTS. ATTACK ON THE WAFD, EVEN THOUGH IT WAS NEVER MENTIONED BY NAME, WAS UNMISTAKABLE AND RATHER EXPECTED. INTERESTINGLY, THERE WAS NOT ATTACK ON THOSE RIGHTISTS WHO BASE THEIR POLITICS ON ISLAM.

3. SHARP WORDS ABOUT QADHAFI WERE GIVEN NEW ORIENTATION BY EMPHASIZING NASSER'S DISGUST WITH THE COLONEL AND CONFIDENTIAL

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OBSERVERS WILL NOT WITH INTEREST THAT SADAT MADE POINT OF REPEATING PHRASE HE USED IN MUSCAT, I.E., "QADHAFI WILL NOT ESCAPE FROM ME".

4. IT MAY BE THAT ATTACK ON THE BA'ATH (NOT ON ASAD) WAS GENERATED BY NEWS OF MAJOR OFFENSIVE IN THE METN. WE ARE NOT YET AWARE OIF SUCH OFFENSIVE HAS IDEED BEGUN, BUT IT IS WORTH NOTING THAT SADAT HAS NEVER BEEN KEEN ON MINI SUMMIT IDEA, WHICH HE HAS AGREED TO CHIEFLY TO APPEAST ITS SAUDI SPONSORS. NEVERTHELESS, SADAT EMPHASIZED THAT HE PERSONALLY HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH KING KHALID THIS MORNING TO PUT END TO SYRIAN MILITARY ESCALATION.

5. ON USSR, SADAT CHOSE HIGHLIGHT PRAVDA ARTICLE "BITTERLY

ATTACKING" EGYPT AND GIVING "FULL SUPPORT " TO QADHAFI. SADAT
ATTACKED MOSCOW ON ONLY ONE POINT, SOVIET SUPPORT FOR QADHAFI
REGIME AND , "AS COROLLARY, MOSCOW'S INDIRECT SUPPORT FOR EFFORTS
WEAKEN ARAB UNITY. SOVIETS WILL HARDLY BE SURPRISED THAT
SADAT STILL ANGRY OVER PRAVDA POLICY STATEMENT, GIVEN
PRESIDENT'S ANGER WITH QADHAFI.
MATTHEWS

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